

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus comprising:  
a light distribution control means for controlling an irradiation direction or an irradiation range of light sent from a light source;  
a rotation drive means having a drive motor which drives the light distribution control means;  
a rotation range detection means for detecting a rotation range of the drive motor;  
and an  
abnormality judgment means for judging an abnormality of the rotation drive means according to a rotation range of the drive motor detected by the rotation range detection means when the rotation drive means is driven in a predetermined condition.
2. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the abnormality judgment means judges an abnormality under the predetermined condition by comparing a rotation range, which is obtained when the drive motor is rotated in one direction and then rotated in the opposite direction, with a predetermined rotation range.
3. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the abnormality judgment means judges an abnormality under the predetermined condition by comparing one of the rotation ranges, one range is obtained when the drive motor is rotated in one direction and the other rotation range is obtained when the drive motor is rotated in the opposite direction, with a predetermined rotation range which is previously set, and when the

rotation range is larger than the predetermined rotation range which is previously set, the rotation is judged to be abnormal.

4. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the abnormal judgment means repeats a judgment motion when it has judged an abnormality.

5. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the rotation range detection means includes a sensing element which outputs pulse signals in response to the rotation of the drive motor, and an up-down counter which counts number of the pulses.

6. (Original) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the abnormality judgment means judges an abnormality by comparing a rotation range with a predetermined rotation range, the rotation range is obtained from a first counting number of the up-down counter when the drive motor is rotated in one direction and a second counting number of the up-down counter when rotated in the opposite direction.

7. (Currently Amended) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when it is judged as abnormal condition, the rotation drive means causes the head lamp is to be deflected and fixed at a maximum deflection angle.

8. (Currently Amended) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when it is judged as abnormal condition, the rotation drive means causes the head lamp is to be directed forward.

9. (Currently Amended) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when it is judged as abnormal condition, the light distribution control means causes the head lamp to emit light at a low luminance.

Applicant : Takada et al.  
Serial No. : 10/652,395  
Filed : August 29, 2003  
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Attorney's Docket No.: 10973-103001 / K43-  
157735M/KQK

10. (New) A vehicle head lamp apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the abnormality judgment means judges if a malfunction of the rotation drive means has occurred.